

Appropos of that Cracker party, it seems that Annie Palmer was not invited and Mrs. Colough was about as much touched as - I was going to say Papa, but I guess it would be nearer the truth to say as I was. As to your plans for the yard I quite approve of them and anything that Mr. Ellis will give you in pots you can put out now. Dig a hole and put in a bucket full of water, wait till it soaks away and then put your plant in. You know how to turn a plant out of a pot without disturbing the roots do you not? Put two fingers each side of the stem of the plant spreading them over the surface, turn the pot over and tap the edge of the pot on something and the plant with the ball of dirt will slip out on your hand.

You said you were thinking what Annie was to do with herself this winter, Did you hit upon anything? Nellie do you know the hymn "From every stormy wind that blows"? If you don't learn it for it contains precious truth.

Mr. Alexander is sick and Mr. Seynorch preached last Sabbath. much to Mrs. Allen's delight.

It is about 10 o'clock and I expect Papa will be here very soon. I was too late to send Mary.

Niles Aug. 13. 77.

Dear Nellie I am alone in this big house as rather Friley and I are. Papa has gone down as a delegate to the nominating convention at Oakland. Charlie as you know went down Saturday and had not returned. Papa said he would come up on the late freight train, so I shall expect him about 10 o'clock.

I think Papa will be quite disconsolate at not receiving even the least bit of a scolding about that trunk. He said true or three times that he should catch it when that letter came from Nellie and that he had written so as to prepare the way for you to give it to him. On the whole it is better as it is for he is very penitent now, and if you had scolded it would have put him on the defensive. I am glad to hear what you say about the likelihood of your having a room to yourself. That would be something to be thankful for. You and Annie escaped an infliction. Wash's sister Mary was here three days last week.

She brought with her a girl about 14. that she said she had adopted. As long as you and Annie were not here to be annoyed I did not care very much.

I suppose Annie told you the storm had burst in regard to Joe. Mr Reid in his note says he is a good and faithful boy, and Uncle Dr. says that Mr R. says no more than he deserves. I feel on the whole that it is much better that he should go in a private school where there may be special attention paid to those branches in which he is most deficient.

I had a letter from him today in which he says that Cousin Sue proposed to him that if he would pay for the tuition out of his Grendila money she would pay the other half. He spoke very cheerfully about using his money in this way. I feel very peaceful about his going to a private school though I am sorry he should have to use the money he worked so hard for, and Sue has done so much for you that I regret her doing also

for him. It is disagreeable to be the recipient of so many favors, and the only consolation

I have is in remembering, what is perfectly true, that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and if it is the Lord's will that to them shall be given the more blessed part, I will try not to murmur.

I will remember what you say about rugs and send him when the fruit goes. It is too bad about the \$2, lost on your trunk. But never mind, only I think I would not bring it home at mid term vacation, it had got into such a bad way you had best let it stay there till it fargets. I suspect the leather with which it is covered was taken from some animal that was in the habit of going astray. I am not entirely able to judge but I should think you had laid out pretty large work for yourself this term.

If tempted to undertake too much, my daughter will you not remember how dear you are to your Mother and Father?

I am very glad about the merinus. You were a good girl.

Mamma says she
thinks the leather my
trunk is covered with
must have been taken
from some animal
that was given to
shanty.

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

Miss M. W. Shinn
Berkeley
Cal a